

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT

WASME Facilitated Members to Meeting with Ministry of Industry, Ethiopia

Introduction: The World Association for Small and Medium Enterprises (WASME) organized a significant meeting between its members and the Industry Minister of Ethiopia, H.E. Mr. Melaku Alebel. Held on 27th February 2024, at the Embassy of Ethiopia, New Delhi, this gathering aimed to foster collaboration, explore investment opportunities, and address challenges in Ethiopia's industrial landscape. This report provides an overview of the event, including key discussions and outcomes.

Attendees: The event witnessed participation from approximately 60 members of WASME, representing a diverse range of industries and sectors. Key dignitaries included H.E. Mr. Demeke Atnafu Ambulo, Ambassador of the Embassy of Ethiopia, and Dr. Sanjiv Layek, Executive Secretary of WASME, among others.

Agenda:

1. **Welcome Address:** H.E. Mr. Demeke Atnafu Ambulo extended a warm welcome to all delegates from WASME, emphasizing the importance of collaboration between Ethiopia and global SMEs. He also introduced H.E. Mr. Melaku Alebel, Minister of Industry, Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, highlighting his role in driving Ethiopia's industrial development agenda.





2. **Introduction of Minister:** Dr. Sanjiv Layek, Executive Secretary of WASME, graciously welcomed H.E. Mr. Melaku Alebel, Minister of Industry, Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, setting the stage for insightful discussions ahead.





3. **Presentation by Minister Alebel:** Minister Alebel provided insights into Ethiopia's industrial landscape, discussing opportunities and challenges across sectors such as Manufacturing, Mining, Steel, Agriculture, Education, and Energy. He emphasized the government's commitment to facilitating investment and fostering partnerships with international SMEs.



4. **Interactive Session:** Er. Ramesh Kumar, Senior Advisor at WASME, facilitated an interactive session where members had the opportunity to share their views and explore potential collaborations with Minister Alebel and his team.
5. **Networking:** The event concluded with a networking session, allowing participants to engage in one-on-one discussions and establish connections for future collaboration.

Key Discussions and Outcomes:

1. **Opportunities in Ethiopia:** Minister Alebel highlighted the vast potential for investment in Ethiopia, particularly in sectors with untapped resources and favorable government policies.
2. **Challenges:** Discussions centered around challenges such as infrastructure limitations, bureaucratic hurdles, and the need for capacity building to enhance the competitiveness of Ethiopian industries.

3. **Collaborative Initiatives:** Members expressed interest in exploring joint ventures, technology transfers, and capacity-building programs to support Ethiopia's industrial development goals.
4. **Commitment to Partnership:** Both WASME and Ethiopian government officials reiterated their commitment to fostering long-term partnerships and supporting the growth of SMEs in Ethiopia.



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Conclusion: The meeting between WASME members and the Industry Minister of Ethiopia served as a platform for fruitful discussions and collaboration opportunities. It highlighted the potential for synergy between global SMEs and Ethiopia's burgeoning industrial sector. Moving forward, continued engagement and follow-up actions are essential to translating discussions into tangible partnerships and mutual benefit.

This report encapsulates the key insights and outcomes of the event, paving the way for further collaboration and cooperation between WASME and Ethiopia in the realm of small and medium enterprise development.